I would urge you to support SB918. The planning that this bill would require of DDS is key to providing future advances in CT ability to manage adult special needs folks. I can speak personally about a family who has an adult autistic son. They are frantic at the thought of their son losing his housing funding for an apartment in his wonderfully supportive community which encourages him to be a functional and participating member of CT society. Autistic adults who need a "sheltered" setting to continue living their lives successfully depend on support from the taxpayers. We have spent huge amounts of money to educate these individuals to their highest potential—only to send them back home to elderly families or, worse yet, foster homes when parents die? Monies spent providing financial assistance to such individuals is an excellent use of my tax dollars.

Most sincerely, Ina Pitt